

May 10, 2006

Department of Health and Human Services Attention: CMS-1270-P P.O. Box 8013 Baltimore, MD 21244-8013

To Whom It May Concern:

As per your request, I am sending you a written comment regarding the CMS initiative to implement a nationwide competitive bidding for DME. (File code CMS-1270-P).

I own a moderate size medical equipment/respiratory/infusion company in middle Tennessee. My company provides critical, life sustaining products and supplies to thousands of patients. The new competitive bidding initiative will put my business and many others just like mine on the brink of bankruptcy. I am concerned about the patients that we serve and the staff that I have employed for many years.

Furthermore, what is more concerning is that my company is more than willing to match the winning competitive bid and to meet the quality standards as set forth by CMS's designated accrediting organizations. My company is simply being marginalized by the very government that we pay taxes to support.

What is the government going to be put out for bid next? Maybe hospitals, or doctor's offices, or perhaps even nursing homes. I believe that the United States government should be in the business of creating opportunities for small business not creating barriers to our financial and operational solvency. This is bad legislation that is simply not a reflection of the freedoms that our forefathers dreamed of for America. On behalf of my patients and my staff, I am requesting that further study be done on how to keep small businesses viable throughout this competitive bidding process

Best Regards,

W. Shane Reeves, Pharm.D.

Reeves-Sain

1837 Memorial Blvd

Murfreesboro, TN 37129

615-278-3146 (work)

615-278-2262(fax)

sreeves@reevessain.com

